Academic Coaches (\$320,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This project will fund academic coaches to help implement and monitor the use of research based instructional strategies in classroom settings. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will help teachers meet Georgia Performance Standards and No Child Left Behind requirements. Beneficiary: Irwin County Schools, 210 North Apple Street, Ocilla, GA 31774.